

Community Preservation Act Committee (CPAC)
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February 16, 2012

The public hearing meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm by Peter Jessop, Chair, in the Town Room at Town Hall.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Sandra Anderson, Marilyn Blaustein (7:06), Paris Boice, Ellen Kosmer, Mary Streeter, Stan Ziomek, Michael Jacques, Peter Jessop, Lynda Faye (7:18)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF / OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Sonia Aldrich,

- Diana Stein, Select Board liaison
- David Ziomek and Linda Chalfant to discuss Plum Brook/Hawthorne
- MJ Adams from Habitat for Humanity
- Rudy Perkins from HAP, Aelan Tierney from Kuhn Riddle and Joanne Campbell from Valley CDC
- Carol Gray Little Red Schoolhouse

AGENDA:

- Tentative Open Space Presentation
- Discuss proposals and vote recommendations that are ready
- Set agenda for next meeting
- Approve any minutes
- Topics the Chair did not reasonably anticipate 48 hours before the meeting.

DISCUSSION:

Public Hearing:

Next meeting Feb 28th 5:00 PM in the Town Room

Bob Romer: Little Red School House, had 3 children attend, supports keeping it functioning.

Rudy Perkins, HAP Housing spoke about competitive funding for Olympia oaks, wants to let us know why he is switching funding from solar to construction. Any funding will help tip the balance toward getting more money from the state. Also bringing down the tax credit will help get more funding. More support from the town will increase chances of getting additional funding.

New funding rounds are in September. Decisions are approximately, January 2013. Discussed various other funds and continuing changing process and funding requests.

Carol Gray: Little Red School House Committee update. Group was meeting elsewhere to discuss operation off site next year. There is a student group pushing to keep it opened. The president of Amherst College has indicated some level of support in the future. The group does not have a building or land to support the project to date. They have requested that we keep money in reserve should the project move forward toward

the fall or next spring.

Mike Hanke: Chair of the Amherst Historic Commission. Let us know that the Emily Dickenson fence is owned by Amherst.

Rob Kusner: Wanted to know what conservation projects are being put forth. Committee let him know that projects are in the works but not ready to be brought forward at this time. We discussed with Rob how projects are brought forward and by whom.

Adjournment of Public Hearing: 7:33, by Peter Jessop

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:33 pm by Peter Jessop, Chair, in the Town Room at Town Hall.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Sandra Anderson, Marilyn Blaustein, Paris Boice, Ellen Kosmer, Mary Streeter, Stan Ziomek, Michael Jacques, Peter Jessop, Lynda Faye

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF / OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Sonia Aldrich; Diana Stein, Select Board Representative

DISCUSSION:

Open space: Dave Ziomek, would like to have the opportunity to bring forward projects before warrant if they should be ready. He would like us to consider the \$25,000.00 request for Surveys and Appraisals.

Sandra Anderson would like to leave a reserve of 10% plus \$25,000.00 for open space

MOTION:

Mary Streeter moved to approve all four (4) debt service items, including Town Hall Masonry, Plum Brook, Hawthorne property Housing, Hawthorne property Recreation. Second by Marilyn Blaustein

VOTE: 9-0-0

MOTION:

Marilyn Blaustein moved to approve \$2000.00 for CPA administrative costs. Stan Ziomek seconded

VOTE: 9-0-0

MOTION:

Mary Streeter moved to set in reserve \$130,000.00 for Little Red School House, Stan Ziomek seconded, but after discussion he withdrew the second.

MOTION:

Marilyn Blaustein moved to approve funding for the Northampton Court House, Sandra Anderson seconded.

Discussion: Sandra expressed that not everyone on the Planning Board feels putting money into a non Amherst project is wrong.

VOTED: 0-9-0, Unanimous opposed.

MOTION:

Stan Ziomek moved not to recommend Little Red School House, Sandra Anderson seconded

VOTE: 8-1-0, Mary Streeter opposed

MOTION:

Michael Jacques recommends \$20,000.00 for Habitat for Humanity, Mary Streeter seconded.

VOTE: unanimous 8-0-1, Peter Jessop recused himself for the vote

MOTION:

Sandra Anderson recommends \$25,000.00 for Open Space Surveys and Appraisals, Mary Streeter seconded

VOTE: 9-0-0

MOTION:

Lynda Faye recommends West Cemetery Fencing for Dickinson plot, Marilyn Blaustein seconded.

It was requested that a member of historic commission be present at town meeting to explain additional funding request. Discussed the value it brings to Amherst with visitors who come to the museum and grave site. Questioned when project would be started. Project is ready and would likely be completed quickly.

VOTE: 8-0-1, Mary Streeter abstained

MOTION:

Stan Ziomek motioned to approve \$25,000.00 for Amherst Historical Society roof repair, Paris Boice seconded

VOTE: 9-0-0

MOTION:

Ellen Kosmer made a motion to approve \$22,000 for a historic database, Lynda Faye seconded

Discussion: Lynda spoke to the value of having a database. Database is supposed to be searchable off site. Majority of the money is salary to complete this. The group requested more information about database software compatibility from historic society.

Ellen withdrew her request.

Chose to table other projects until 2/28/12 and request additional information on feasibility of bonding open space projects. The projects included two projects for open space in the sum of \$375,000.00 and one housing project for a maximum of \$250,000.00

Previous minutes:

Discussion to correct a total request to \$47,231 by Amherst Historical Society and spelling of Carol Gray's name.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Stan Ziomek, seconded by Marilyn Blaustein

VOTED: 7-0-2, with Michael Jacques and Sandra Anderson abstaining

Adjournment:**MOTION:**

A motion was made by Mike Jacques, Seconded by Paris Boice

VOTED: Unanimously

NEXT MEETINGS:

Future meetings: All future meetings will be in the Town Room at Town Hall from 7 pm to 9 pm unless otherwise indicated below.

February 28, 2012	Vote on Projects
March 15 th , 2012	Vote on Projects
April 19 th , 2012	Decide whose addressing issues/presenting at Town Meeting

DOCUMENTS DISTRIBUTED

- Agenda- February 16th, 2012
- CPA FY2013 Proposals Draft 1
- CPAC Draft Meeting Minutes from Thursday, February 2, 2012

Submitted by Michael Jacques

Approved February 28, 2012